

Bon Secour Fisheries, Inc.

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APR 19 P1:57

April 5, 1999

To: Our Loyal Customers
From: Chris Nelson

The Center for Science in the Public Interest (CSPI) has petitioned the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to require all molluscan shellfish (oysters, clams and mussels) to be post-harvest treated before being sold to you. CSPI has in the past sought to protect the public from, among other dubious threats, movie theater popcorn and Chinese food.

We are opposed to the petition. We feel that you should continue to have the opportunity to purchase traditional oysters with all of the nutritional health benefits of an untreated product.

Consumers should be educated that those in the at-risk group, predominately advanced liver disease, should consume oysters thoroughly cooked to avoid risk. Diabetics need to avoid sugar, however sugar is available to the rest of us. In the same light, we should have the choice to eat traditional raw oysters even though there are some who should not. Also, treated oysters will be more expensive than the natural product. Why should you pay for something you may not want and most of your customers do not need? - *Very True*

Please help us by contacting the FDA as soon as possible. You may wish to sign the enclosed card, or put the enclosed draft letter on you company letterhead and mail it before April 15 to the address on the card.

Thanks!!!

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A Special Message to the FDA:

America's consumers deserve choice in quality shellfish products at competitive prices.

Changes to oyster and shellfish processing rules currently being reviewed by FDA unnecessarily eliminate consumer choice for unprocessed raw oysters and ensure higher consumer prices at restaurants, stores and markets.

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I/we support current consumer education and awareness efforts and strongly oppose these unnecessary, restrictive and costly rules.

Please reject this assault on consumer choice and America's shellfish industry. Reject the CSPI petition and avoid these unnecessary and costly regulations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Daniel L. Felt". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a horizontal line extending from the end.